

Message Text

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42

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 ACDA-19 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00

USIE-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 TRSE-00 NIC-01 OMB-01

AID-20 SAJ-01 SAM-01 IO-14 DRC-01 SCCT-02 SY-04 OPR-02

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O R 291807Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 642

INFO AMCONSUL LUANDA

LOURENCO MARQUEST 1686

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

DIA WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GERMANY

AMCONSUL OPORTO

AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 4184

EO11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, MILI, PO

SUBJECT: SITREP #3 AS OF 1900 LOCAL SEPTEMBER 29

REF: LISBON 4182

1. LISBON AND REST OF PORTUGAL REMAIN OUTWARDLY CALM WITH NO
LARGE CROWDS IN EVIDENCE AND NO UNUSUAL TROOP MOVEMENTS.
AREA SURROUNDING BELEM PALACE FREE OF ANY UNUSUAL TROOP OR CROWD
ACTIVITY. RADIO STATIONS BROADCASTING NORMALLY WITH FULL RANGE OF
PROGRAMS AND NEWS. TELEVISION BROADCASTING AS USUAL, AND
ALL PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION FUNCTIONING. AS USUAL, NO NEWS-
PAPERS WERE PUBLISHED ON SUNDAY, EXCEPT FOR A SMALL PAPER
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O DOMINGO WHICH ONLY APPEARS SUNDAY.

2. THE ARMED FORCES MOVEMENT HAS BROADCAST ANNOUNCEMENTS PERIODICALLY THROUGHOUT THE DAY CALLING ON THE POPULATION TO REMAIN CALM AND ASSURING THEM THAT THE MOVEMENT HAS THE SITUATION UNDER CONTROL. IN THE LATTER PART OF THE AFTERNOON BRIGIDIER OTELO SARAIVA DE CARVALHO, HEAD OF COPCON, READ AN ANNOUNCEMENT CALLING FOR THE CIVILIANS MANNING THE BARRICADES AROUND THE CITY TO LEAVE THEM INASMUCH AS THE REGULAR ARMY FORCES WERE CAPABLE OF MAINTAINING ORDER. IN THIS ANNOUNCEMENT SARAIVA REFERRED TO A "REACTIONARY CONSPIRACY" WHICH HAD TAKEN PLACE, WHICH IS THE FIRST TIME AS FAR AS WE KNOW THAT AN OFFICIAL IN THE GOVERNMENT HAS STATED THAT A CONSPIRACY HAD BEEN UNDERWAY.

3. O DOMINGO HAS PUBLISHED A LIST OF SOME 33 PERSONS WHO IT SAYS HAVE BEEN DETAINED. IN ADDITION TO THESE NAMES (WHICH WE WILL SEND SEPTTEL) ANOTHER 120 SOME INDIVIDUALS ARE ALLEGEDLY DETAINED, 70 TO 80 IN CAXIAS PRISION. PROMINENT AMONG THOSE ON THE NEWSPAPER'S LIST ARE: FORMER MINISTERS SILVA CUNHA AND MOREIRA BAPTISTA; KAULZA DE ARRIAGA; PROF ADRIANO MOREIRA; FRANCO NOGUEIRA; ELMANO ALVES; JOSE CASAL RIBEIRO; AND GEN VENANCIO DESLANDES. NONE OF THOSE ON THE LIST ARE IN THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT, AND NONE ARE PROMINENT IN ANY POLITICAL PARTIES. MOST ARE OLD REGIME POLITICAL AND MILITARY FIGURES, OR WEALTHY CONSERVATIVES.

4. EMBOFFS HAVE BEEN IN CONTACT WITH GEN COSTA GOMES' MILITARY AIDE WHO INFORMS US THAT A DECISION WAS REACHED AT A COUNCIL OF STATE MEETING THIS AFTERNOON THAT NO CHANGES WOULD BE FORTHCOMING IN THE PRESIDENCY OR IN THE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT AT THIS TIME. THE AIDE WAS LESS SURE REGARDING THE JUNTA AND WOULD NOT OR COULD NOT GUARANTEE THAT NO CHANGES WOULD OCCUR THERE. (RUMORS HOLD THAT AT LEAST ONE JUNTA MEMBER, GENERAL GALVAO DE MELLO, WHO ISSUED STATEMENT SEPTEMBER 27 SUPPORTING PRO-SPINOLA RALLY ON SEPTEMBER 28, WILL BE REMOVED).

5. UNDERSTAND ASSOCIATED PRESS AND PERHAPS NEW YORK TIMES (GINIGER) MAY FILE STORIES SEPTEMBER 29 SAYING THAT LINKAGE BETWEEN ARMED FORCES MOVEMENT (AFM) CONFIDENTIAL

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AND COMMUNISTS AND OTHER "POPULAR FORCES" IS MOST SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENT IN LAST 48 HOURS. CERTAINLY THIS IS IMPRESSION LEFTISTS WISH TO CREATE AND SURFACE OBSERVATIONS WOULD SUGGEST. WHETHER IN FACT LINKAGE IS REAL IS MATTER FOR CONJECTURE. WHAT IS CERTAIN IS THAT PEOPLE WHO HAVE FACTS ARE INACCESSIBLE.

6. FOREIGN MINISTER SOARES RETURNED TO PORTUGAL SEPTEMBER 29 SHORTLY AFTER 1300 HOURS LOCAL. DCM TELEPHONED SOARES AT HIS

HOME AT 1700 HOURS AND SPOKE TO HIM FOR 15 MINUTES. DCM STRESSED THAT EMBASSY DOES NOT WISH TO BASE REPORTS TO DEPARTMENT ON RUMORS. SOARES SAID HE HAD NOT YET HAD TIME TO FILL HIMSELF IN ON DEVELOPMENTS OF LAST 38 HOURS, BUT THAT HE UNDERSTOOD THE POINT AND WOULD CONTACT DCM LATER IN THE DAY IF HE HAD ANYTHING TO REPORT. IF HE DID NOT CALL TODAY HE SAID HE WOULD BE IN TOUCH IN THE MORNING. DCM SAID THAT IF PRIME MINISTER VASCO GONCALVES WISHED TO DISCUSS DEVELOPMENTS, THE AMBASSADOR AND THE DCM WERE AT HIS DISPOSAL. SOARES SAID HE WOULD PASS THAT ALONG.

7. CALLS HAVE ALSO BEEN MADE SEPTEMBER 28 TO VITOR ALVES, MELO ANTUNES AND SPINOLA AIDE NUNES BARATA. NONE OF THESE CALLS HAS BEEN RETURNED.

8. ONLY INJURY REPORTED SO FAR IS TO A DRIVER WHO ALLEGEDLY ATTEMPTED TO RUN A ROADBLOCK SET UP ON THE ACCESS ROAD TO THE SALAZAR BRIDGE ON SEPTEMBER 28 AND WAS SHOT BY A BLAST FROM AN AUTOMATIC WEAPON, PRESUMABLY FIRED BY A SOLDIER. THE INDIVIDUAL IS REPORTEDLY IN SERIOUS CONDITION IN A LISBON HOSPITAL.
SCOTT

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Message Attributes

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